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6  
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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

9 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

10  
11 JULIA DETWEILER, individually and  
as successor-in-interest to Nicholas  
12 Detweiler, deceased,

13 Plaintiff,

14 v.

15  
16 CITY OF MOUNT SHASTA;  
17 JEREMIAH CAPURRO; NATIONAL  
18 RAILROAD PASSENGER  
19 CORPORATION; BRUCE GARRETT;  
and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

20 Defendants.

21 **COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES:**

1. Fourth Amendment, Excessive Force (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
2. Fourth Amendment, Unlawful Detention and Arrest (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
3. Fourth Amendment, Denial of Medical Care (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
4. First and Fourteenth Amendments, Interference with Familial Relationship (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
5. Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12132)
6. Battery (Wrongful Death and Survival)
7. Negligence (Wrongful Death and Survival)
8. Violation of Bane Act (Cal. Civil Code §52.1)

22 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

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1 COMES NOW, Plaintiff JULIA DETWEILER, individually and as successor-  
2 in-interest to Nicholas Detweiler, deceased, for her Complaint against Defendants  
3 CITY OF MOUNT SHASTA, JEREMIAH CAPURRO, NATIONAL RAILROAD  
4 PASSENGER CORPORATION, BRUCE GARRETT, and DOES 1 through 10,  
5 inclusive, and each of them (collectively, “Defendants”), and alleges as follows:

6 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

7 1. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and  
8 1333(a)(3)-(4) because Plaintiff asserts claims arising under the laws of the United  
9 States including 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments  
10 of the United States Constitution. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over  
11 Plaintiff’s claims arising under state law pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1337(a), because  
12 those claims are so related to the federal claims that they form part of the same case  
13 or controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution.

14 2. Venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1333(b) because all  
15 incidents, events, and occurrences giving rise to this action occurred in this district  
16 and, on information and belief, all Defendants reside in this district.

17 **INTRODUCTION**

18 3. This civil rights and state tort action seeks compensatory and punitive  
19 damages from Defendants for violating various rights under the United States  
20 Constitution and state law in connection with the fatal officer shooting of Plaintiff’s  
21 son, Nicholas Detweiler, on December 25, 2023.

22 4. Plaintiff alleges that the death of Nicholas Detweiler was a result of the  
23 excessive use of deadly force by Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-  
24 10, of Defendants’ failure to provide reasonable medical care to Nicholas Detweiler  
25 despite Nicholas Detweiler’s serious medical condition after being shot, and of  
26 Defendants’ deliberate indifference to Nicholas Detweiler’s Constitutional rights.

27 **PARTIES**

28 5. At all relevant times, Nicholas Detweiler was an individual residing in

1 the City of Klamath Falls, Oregon.

2       6. Plaintiff JULIA DETWEILER is an individual residing in the city of Rio  
3 Nido, California and is the natural mother of Nicholas Detweiler. JULIA  
4 DETWEILER sues in her individual capacity as the mother of Nicholas Detweiler  
5 and in a representative capacity as successor-in-interest to Nicholas Detweiler  
6 pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §377.60. JULIA DETWEILER seeks  
7 both survival and wrongful death damages under federal and state law.

8       7. At all relevant times, Defendant CITY OF MOUNT SHASTA (“CITY”)  
9 is and was a municipal corporation existing under the laws of the State of California.  
10 CITY is a chartered subdivision of the State of California with the capacity to be  
11 sued. CITY is responsible for the actions, omissions, policies, procedures, practices,  
12 and customs of its various agents and agencies, including the Mount Shasta Police  
13 Department and its agents and employees. At all relevant times, CITY was  
14 responsible for assuring that the actions, omissions, policies, procedures, practices,  
15 and customs of the CITY and its employees and agents complied with the laws of the  
16 United States and of the State of California. At all relevant times, CITY was the  
17 employer of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and of some or all of DOES 1-10.

18       8. Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO is a police officer for the CITY’s  
19 Police Department. At all relevant times, JEREMIAH CAPURRO was acting under  
20 color of law and within the course and scope of his duties as an officer for the CITY,  
21 and was acting with the complete authority and ratification of his principal,  
22 Defendant CITY.

23       9. Defendant NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION  
24 (“AMTRAK”) is a private company incorporated in the District of Columbia doing  
25 business in California and in the County of Siskiyou. At all relevant times,  
26 AMTRAK was responsible for assuring that the actions, omisisons, policies,  
27 procedures, practices, and customs of AMTRAK and its employees and agents  
28 complied with the laws of the United States and the State of California. At all

1 relevant times, AMTRAK was the employer of Defendant BRUCE GARRETT.

2       10. Defendant BRUCE GARRETT is an employee of AMTRAK. At all  
3 relevant times, BRUCE GARRETT was acting within the course and scope of his  
4 duties as an employee for AMTRAK, and was acting with the complete authority and  
5 ratification of his principal, AMTRAK.

6       11. Defendants DOES 1-10 are police officers for the CITY's Police  
7 Department ("DOE OFFICERS"). At all relevant times, DOE OFFICERS were  
8 acting under color of law within the course and scope of their duties as officers for  
9 the CITY, and were acting with the complete authority and ratification of their  
10 principal, Defendant CITY.

11       12. On information and belief, JEREMIAH CAPURRO was a resident of  
12 the County of Siskiyou at all relevant times.

13       13. On information and belief, DOES 1-10 were residents of the County of  
14 Siskiyou at all relevant times.

15       14. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate,  
16 association or otherwise of Defendant DOES 1-10, inclusive, are unknown to  
17 Plaintiff, who otherwise sue these Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will  
18 seek leave to amend this compliant to show the true names and capacities of these  
19 Defendants when they have been ascertained. On information and belief, each of the  
20 fictitiously named Defendants is responsible in some manner for the conduct or  
21 liabilities alleged herin.

22       15. Defendants DOES 1-10 are sued in their individual capacities.

23       16. At all times mentioned herein, each and every Defendant, including  
24 DOES 1-10, was the agent of each and every other Defendant and had the legal duty  
25 to oversee and supervise the hiring, conduct, and employment of each and every  
26 Defendant.

27       17. All of the acts complained of herein by Plaintiff against Defendants,  
28 including DOES 1-10, were done and performed by said Defendants by and through

1 their authorized agents, servants, and/or employees, all of whom at all relevant times  
2 herein were acting with the course, purpose, and scope of said agency, service, and/or  
3 employment capacity.

4 **FACTS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

5 18. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing  
6 paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth  
7 herein.

8 19. On or about December 25, 2023, Nicholas Detweiler was a ticketed  
9 passenger on a passenger train operated by AMTRAK and on which BRUCE  
10 GARRETT was working as, on information and belief, a train conductor.

11 20. JEREMIAH CAPURRO boarded the train to respond to an alleged  
12 disturbance, and BRUCE GARRETT led JEREMIAH CAPURRO to the area where  
13 Nicholas Detweiler was seated in a passenger seat in a train car.

14 21. After entering the train car, JEREMIAH CAPURRO contacted Nicholas  
15 Detweiler, who was sleeping while seated.

16 22. Thereafter, JEREMIAH CAPURRO escalated the situation when he  
17 woke Nicholas Detweiler from his sleep and shined a flashlight in Nicholas  
18 Detweiler's face while issuing conflicting orders in a hostile manner, including  
19 directing Nicholas Detweiler to leave the train, and while grabbing onto Nicholas  
20 Detweiler and preventing him from retrieving his belongings from the seat next to  
21 him to leave the train as directed.

22 23. JEREMIAH CAPURRO further escalated the situation when he then  
23 discharged his taser at Nicholas Detweiler, without justification, striking Nicholas  
24 Detweiler.

25 24. BRUCE GARRETT then approached Nicholas Detweiler and grabbed  
26 Nicholas Detweiler from behind, restraining Nicholas Detweiler, while JEREMIAH  
27 CAPURRO discharged his taser at Nicholas Detweiler a second and third time.

28 25. While Nicholas Detweiler was being restrained from behind by BRUCE

1 GARRETT, JEREMIAH CAPURRO then proceeded to repeatedly strike Nicholas  
2 Detweiler with his police baton. JEREMIAH CAPURRO had not observed Nicholas  
3 Detweiler commit any crime, strike or attempt to strike anyone, flee or attempt to  
4 flee, or verbally threaten to harm anyone.

5       26. BRUCE GARRETT continued to restrain Nicholas Detweiler and  
6 prevent Nicholas Detweiler from exiting the train, despite JEREMIAH CAPURRO  
7 having clearly and audibly told Nicholas Detweiler to exit the train such that, on  
8 information and belief, BRUCE GARRETT could hear it.

9       27. Shortly thereafter, while Nicholas Detweiler continued to be restrained  
10 from behind by BRUCE GARRETT, JEREMIAH CAPURRO repeatedly discharged  
11 his firearm at Nicholas Detweiler, striking him.

12       28. At the time JEREMIAH CAPURRO repeatedly tasered and beat  
13 Nicholas Detweiler with baton strikes, Nicholas Detweiler posed no immediate threat  
14 of harm to JEREMIAH CAPURRO or any other person.

15       29. At the time JEREMIAH CAPURRO repeatedly shot Nicholas Detweiler  
16 with his firearm, Nicholas Detweiler posed no immediate threat of death or serious  
17 bodily injury to JEREMIAH CAPURRO or any other person.

18       30. JEREMIAH CAPURRO did not issue appropriate commands to  
19 Nicholas Detweiler during the encounter, including in the moments prior to  
20 JEREMIAH CAPURRO's use of deadly force. JEREMIAH CAPURRO also did not  
21 warn Nicholas Detweiler that JEREMIAH CAPURRO would use force against him,  
22 including deadly force, before tasering Nicholas Detweiler, beating him with baton  
23 strikes, or fatally shooting him.

24       31. At the time of the shooting, Nicholas Detweiler made no aggressive  
25 movements toward JEREMIAH CAPURRO, did not lunge toward JEREMIAH  
26 CAPURRO, did not step or move toward JEREMIAH CAPURRO, and did not make  
27 any furtive gestures that would suggest to JEREMIAH CAPURRO that he was  
28 attempting, or intending to inflict harm to JEREMIAH CAPURRO.

1       32. JEREMIAH CAPURRO did not employ tactics to de-escalate the  
2 situation, failed to give Nicholas Detweiler time and space to understand and accept  
3 JEREMIAH CAPURRO's presence, failed to approach and speak to Nicholas  
4 Detweiler in a non-threatening manner, and failed to give Nicholas Detweiler the  
5 opportunity to consent to and cooperate with instructions.

6       33. Nicholas Detweiler was not an immediate threat of death or serious  
7 bodily harm to anyone at the time JEREMIAH CAPURRO shot and killed Nicholas  
8 Detweiler. Plaintiff is informed and believe that at no time prior to JEREMIAH  
9 CAPURRO discharging his weapon, that no police officer, or other person, was  
10 facing an imminent threat of death or serious physical injury, and that no police  
11 officer was incapable of neutralizing and/or effectuating the seizure of Nicholas  
12 Detweiler using any of a variety of readily available less intrusive means or  
13 strategies. The force used by the JEREMIAH CAPURRO was unnecessary,  
14 excessive, and unreasonable under the totality of the circumstances.

15      34. On information and belief, Nicholas Detweiler never verbally threatened  
16 anyone prior to being fatally shot by JEREMIAH CAPURRO.

17      35. JEREMIAH CAPURRO shot Nicholas Detweiler even though he was  
18 not an immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury to him or anyone else and  
19 there were other less intrusive options available. JEREMIAH CAPURRO did not  
20 show a reverence for human life, and this was not an immediate defense of life  
21 situation.

22      36. Nicholas Detweiler never pointed a firearm at Defendant JEREMIAH  
23 CAPURRO, or anyone else, prior to being fatally shot. Nicholas Detweiler was not  
24 armed with a firearm or any other deadly weapon.

25      37. Based on information and belief, after JEREMIAH CAPURRO  
26 discharged his firearm and became aware of Nicholas Detweiler's deteriorating  
27 physical condition, JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE OFFICERS waited several  
28 minutes before summoning paramedics to render medical care, and further

unreasonably delayed paramedics' access to Nicholas Detweiler upon arrival at the incident scene.

38. Nicholas Detweiler died as a result of his injuries.

4       39. Plaintiff JULIA DETWEILER is Nicholas Detweiler's successor-in-  
5 interest as defined in Section 377.11 of the California Code of Civil Procedure and  
6 succeeds to Nicholas Detweiler's interest in this action as the natural mother of  
7 Nicholas Detweiler.

8       40. On or around June 4, 2024, Plaintiff filed comprehensive and timely  
9 claims for damages with the City of Mount Shasta pursuant to the applicable sections  
10 of the California Government Code. Said claims were denied by operation of law on  
11 July 19, 2024. As of the date of this filing, Plaintiff has not received any response to  
12 these claims.

## **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## **Unreasonable Search and Seizure - Excessive Force (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

(Plaintiff against Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10)

16       41. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing  
17 paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth  
18 herein.

19       42. The unreasonable use of force, including deadly force, by Defendant  
20 JEREMIAH CAPURRO deprived Nicholas Detweiler of his right to be secure in his  
21 person against unreasonable searches and seizures as guaranteed to Nicholas  
22 Detweiler under the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and applied  
23 to state actors by the Fourteenth Amendment.

24       43. As a result of JEREMIAH CAPURRO's unreasonable use of force,  
25 Nicholas Detweiler suffered extreme pain and suffering and eventually lost his life.  
26 Plaintiff has also been deprived of the life-long love, companionship, comfort,  
27 support, society, care, and sustenance of Nicholas Detweiler, and will continue to be  
28 so deprived for the remainder of her natural life.

1       44. As a result of the conduct of Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and  
2 DOE OFFICERS, they are liable for Nicholas Detweiler's injuries, either because  
3 they were integral participants in the use of excessive force, or because they failed to  
4 intervene to prevent these violations.

5       45. The use of force, including deadly force, was excessive and  
6 unreasonable under the circumstances, especially since Nicholas Detweiler did not  
7 pose an immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury to JEREMIAH  
8 CAPURRO, or anyone else, prior to being fatally shot. Further, Nicholas Detweiler  
9 never verbally threatened anyone in the officers' presence and never brandished a  
10 deadly weapon at JEREMIAH CAPURRO, or anyone else, prior to being fatally shot.  
11 Defendants also failed to investigate or appropriately consider whether Nicholas  
12 Detweiler was mentally ill and/or experiencing a mental crisis, despite readily  
13 apparent indications that he was. Defendants also did not properly assess Nicholas  
14 Detweiler's mental state or employ appropriate tactics given Nicholas Detweiler's  
15 mental state. Defendants' actions thus deprived Nicholas Detweiler of his right to be  
16 free from unreasonable searches and seizures under the Fourth Amendment and  
17 applied to state actors by the Fourteenth Amendment.

18       46. The conduct of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE OFFICERS was  
19 willful, wanton, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the rights and safety  
20 of Nicholas Detweiler and therefore warrants the imposition of exemplary and  
21 punitive damages as to these Defendants.

22       47. As a result of the foregoing, Nicholas Detweiler suffered great physical  
23 pain and emotional distress up to the time of his death after the shooting, and also  
24 suffered a loss of enjoyment of life, loss of life, and loss of earning capacity.

25       48. As a direct and proximate result of the wrongful death of Nicholas  
26 Detweiler, Plaintiff suffered the loss of love, companionship, comfort, care,  
27 assistance, protection, affection, society, moral support, and guidance of Nicholas  
28 Detweiler, and will continue to be for the remainder of her natural life. Accordingly,

1 JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10 are liable to Plaintiff for compensatory  
2 damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff is also claiming funeral and burial  
3 expenses.

4       49. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and as successor-in-interest to  
5 Nicholas Detweiler and seeks both survival damages, including for Nicholas  
6 Detweiler's loss of life and pre-death pain and suffering, and wrongful death  
7 damages, for the violation of Nicholas Detweiler's rights.

8       50. Plaintiff also seeks costs and attorney's fees under this claim.

### **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

#### **Fourth Amendment – Unlawful Detention and Arrest (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

(Plaintiff against Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10)

12       51. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing  
13 paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth  
14 herein.

15       52. When JEREMIAH CAPURRO grabbed onto Nicholas Detweiler and  
16 trained his taser on Nicholas Detweiler, Nicholas Detweiler was not free to leave and  
17 was seized. At that time, JEREMIAH CAPURRO did not have reasonable suspicion  
18 or probable cause to believe that Nicholas Detweiler had committed a crime.  
19 JEREMIAH CAPURRO then struck Nicholas Detweiler with his taser, baton, and  
20 lethal rounds, continuing to seize Nicholas Detweiler and effectuating Nicholas  
21 Detweiler's *de facto* arrest. After the shooting, on information and belief,  
22 JEREMIAH CAPURRO handcuffed Nicholas Detweiler.

23       53. Prior to seizing Nicholas Detweiler, JEREMIAH CAPURRO did not  
24 observe Nicholas Detweiler commit any crime. In addition to the detention itself  
25 being unreasonable, the scope and matter of the detention was also unreasonable in  
26 that JEREMIAH CAPURRO used more force than reasonably appeared necessary to  
27 effectuate Nicholas Detweiler's detention and arrest, including through the  
28 unreasonable use of deadly force.

1       54. When Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO engaged in the foregoing  
2 conduct, he violated Nicholas Detweiler's right to be secure in his person against  
3 unreasonable searches and seizures as guaranteed to him under the Fourth  
4 Amendment of the United States Constitution and applied to state actors by the  
5 Fourteenth Amendment.

6       55. The conduct of Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO was willful, wanton,  
7 malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the rights and safety of Nicholas  
8 Detweiler and therefore warrants the imposition of exemplary and punitive damages  
9 as to Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO.

10      56. At all relevant times, JEREMIAH CAPURRO was acting under color of  
11 state law.

12      57. As a result of this misconduct, Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and  
13 DOE OFFICERS are liable for Nicholas Detweiler's injuries, either because they  
14 were integral participants in the wrongful detention and arrest, or because they failed  
15 to intervene to prevent these violations.

16      58. As a result of the foregoing, Nicholas Detweiler suffered great physical  
17 pain and emotional distress up to the time of his death after the shooting, and also  
18 suffered a loss of enjoyment of life, loss of life, and loss of earning capacity.

19      59. As a direct and proximate result of the wrongful death of Nicholas  
20 Detweiler, Plaintiff suffered the loss of love, companionship, comfort, care,  
21 assistance, protection, affection, society, moral support, and guidance of Nicholas  
22 Detweiler, and will continue to be for the remainder of her natural life. Accordingly,  
23 JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10 are liable to Plaintiff for compensatory  
24 damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

25      60. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and as successor-in-interest to  
26 Nicholas Detweiler and seeks both survival damages, including for Nicholas  
27 Detweiler's loss of life and pre-death pain and suffering, and wrongful death  
28 damages, for the violation of Nicholas Detweiler's rights. Plaintiff is also claiming

1 funeral and burial expenses.

2 61. Plaintiff also seeks costs and attorney's fees under this claim.

3 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

4 **Fourth Amendment - Denial of Medical Care (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

5 (Plaintiff against Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10)

6 62. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the  
7 foregoing paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set  
8 forth herein.

9 63. The denial of medical care by Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and  
10 DOE OFFICERS deprived Nicholas Detweiler of his right to be secure in his persons  
11 against unreasonable searches and seizures as guaranteed to him under the Fourth  
12 Amendment to the United States Constitution and applied to state actors by the  
13 Fourteenth Amendment.

14 64. On information and belief, JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE  
15 OFFICERS knew, or reasonably should have known, that failure to provide timely  
16 medical treatment to Nicholas Detweiler could result in further significant injury, the  
17 unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain, and/or death, but disregarded that serious  
18 medical need, exacerbating Nicholas Detweiler's injuries and pain and causing his  
19 death.

20 65. On information and belief, after shooting Nicholas Detweiler,  
21 JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE OFFICERS did not timely summon or provide  
22 timely medical attention for Nicholas Detweiler, who was bleeding profusely and had  
23 obvious injuries, and JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE OFFICERS did not allow,  
24 and rather prevented, responding medical personnel on-scene to timely render  
25 medical aid and assistance to Nicholas Detweiler.

26 66. The conduct of Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE  
27 OFFICERS was willful, wanton, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the  
28 rights and safety of Nicholas Detweiler and therefore warrants the imposition of

exemplary and punitive damages as to these Defendants.

67. As a result of the foregoing, Nicholas Detweiler suffered great physical pain and emotional distress up to the time of his death after the shooting, and also suffered a loss of enjoyment of life, loss of life, and loss of earning capacity.

68. As a direct and proximate result of the wrongful death of Nicholas Detweiler, Plaintiff suffered the loss of love, companionship, comfort, care, assistance, protection, affection, society, moral support, and guidance of Nicholas Detweiler, and will continue to be so deprived for the remainder of her natural life. Accordingly, JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10 are liable to Plaintiff for compensatory damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

69. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and as successor-in-interest to the Nicholas Detweiler and seeks both survival damages, including for Nicholas Detweiler's loss of life and pre-death pain and suffering, and wrongful death damages for the violation of Nicholas Detweiler's rights. Plaintiff is also claiming funeral and burial expenses.

70. Plaintiff also seeks costs and attorney's fees under this claim.

## **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## **First and Fourteenth Amendments – Interference with Familial Relationships (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

(Plaintiff against Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10)

71. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

72. Plaintiff JULIA DETWEILER had a cognizable interest under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution to be free from state actions that deprive her of life, liberty, or property in such a manner as to shock the conscience, including but not limited to, unwarranted state interference in Plaintiff's familial relationship with her son, Nicholas Detweiler. Plaintiff also had

1 a cognizable interest under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution to  
2 be free from state actions that unreasonably interfere with her familial relationship  
3 and association with her son, Nicholas Detweiler.

4       73. As a result of the excessive force by Defendants JEREMIAH  
5 CAPURRO and DOE OFFICERS while acting under color of state law, Nicholas  
6 Detweiler died. Plaintiff was thereby deprived of her First and Fourteenth  
7 Amendment rights of familial relationship with Nicholas Detweiler.

8       74. The aforementioned actions of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE  
9 OFFICERS, along with any undiscovered conduct, shock the conscience, in that he  
10 acted with deliberate indifference to the constitutional rights of the Nicholas  
11 Detweiler and Plaintiff and with purpose to harm unrelated to any legitimate law  
12 enforcement objective.

13       75. As a direct and proximate cause of the actions of DOE OFFICERS,  
14 Plaintiff has suffered emotionally and has been deprived of the life-long love,  
15 companionship, comfort, support, society, care, and sustenance of Nicholas  
16 Detweiler, and will continue to be so deprived for the remainder of her natural life.

17       76. As a result of the conduct of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE  
18 OFFICERS, they are liable for Nicholas Detweiler's and Plaintiff's injuries because  
19 they were integral participants in the denial of due process and free association rights.

20       77. The conduct of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOE OFFICERS was  
21 willful, wanton, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the rights and  
22 safety of Nicholas Detweiler and for the rights of Plaintiff, and therefore warrants  
23 the imposition of exemplary and punitive damages as to these Defendants.

24       78. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and seeks wrongful death  
25 damages under this claim for the interference with Plaintiff's familial relationship  
26 with Nicholas Detweiler. Plaintiff is also claiming funeral and burial expenses.

27       79. Plaintiff also seeks attorney's fees and costs under this claim.  
28

## **FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

## **Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12132)**

(Plaintiff against all Defendants)

4       80. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing  
5 paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth  
6 herein.

7        81. Nicholas Detweiler was a “qualified individual” with a mental  
8 impairment that substantially limited his ability to care for himself and control his  
9 mental health condition as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act  
10 (“ADA”), 42 U.S.C. § 12131(2).

11        82. The CITY and AMTRAK are covered entities for purposes of  
12 enforcement of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. § 12131(1), as explained by regulations under  
13 these laws.

14        83. Under the ADA, the CITY and AMTRAK are mandated to develop  
15 effective procedures for interactions with, and the provision of services to, qualified  
16 individuals and to ensure the protection of their personal and civil rights.

17       84. The CITY and AMTRAK are mandated under the ADA not to  
18 discriminate against any qualified individual on the basis of disability in any services  
19 or facilities. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a).

20        85. The CITY and AMTRAK violated the ADA by failing to properly train  
21 their employees, including CITY police officers and AMTRAK train conductors, to  
22 respond and interact peacefully with individuals who have mental health impairments  
23 and/or are experiencing mental health crises, such as Nicholas Detweiler.

24       86. JEREMIAH CAPURRO, DOES 1-10, and BRUCE GARRETT violated  
25 the ADA by failing to follow procedures for dealing with individuals with mental  
26 impairments and/or who are experiencing mental health crises. With respect to  
27 BRUCE GARRETT, such individuals include train passengers with whom BRUCE  
28 GARRETT was expected to regularly interact in the course of his employment with

1 AMTRAK. With respect to JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10, these  
2 procedures include procedures for de-escalation and non-lethal force in interactions  
3 with members of the public with mental impairments and/or who are suffering from  
4 mental health crises, such as Nicholas Detweiler.

5        87. As a result of the acts and omissions of Defendants, Nicholas Detweiler  
6 suffered damages, including loss of life and pain and suffering.

7 Plaintiff brings this claim individually and as successor-in interest to  
8 Nicholas Detweiler and seeks both survival damages and wrongful death damages.  
9 Plaintiff is also claiming funeral and burial expenses.

10 || 89. Plaintiff also seeks attorney's fees and costs under this claim.

## **SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

12 **Battery (Cal. Govt. Code § 820 and California Common Law) (Wrongful Death**  
13 **and Survival)**

14 || (Plaintiff against all Defendants)

15       90. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing  
16 paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth  
17 herein.

18       91. Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO, while working as a police officer  
19 for the CITY and acting within the course and scope of his duties, intentionally used  
20 force, including deadly force, against Nicholas Detweiler. JEREMIAH CAPURRO  
21 had no legal justification for using force against Nicholas Detweiler, and said uses of  
22 force while carrying out his police officer duties were unreasonable, especially since  
23 Nicholas Detweiler did not pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury  
24 to JEREMIAH CAPURRO or anyone else. The use of force, including deadly force,  
25 was also unreasonable because there were less intrusive options readily available. As  
26 a result of the actions of JEREMIAH CAPURRO, Nicholas Detweiler suffered severe  
27 mental and physical pain and suffering, loss of enjoyment of life, and ultimately died  
28 from his injuries and lost learning capacity.

1       92. CITY is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of JEREMIAH  
2 CAPURRO pursuant to section 815.2(a) of the California Government Code, which  
3 provides that a public entity is liable for the injuries caused by its employees within  
4 the scope of the employment if the employee's act would subject him or her to  
5 liability.

6       93. Defendant BRUCE GARRETT, while working as an employee for  
7 Defendant AMTRAK and acting within the course and scope of his duties, physically  
8 restrained Nicholas Detweiler from behind, against Nicholas Detweiler's will,  
9 including when Nicholas Detweiler was shot by JEREMIAH CAPURRO. BRUCE  
10 GARRETT had no legal justification for restraining Nicholas Detweiler. As a result  
11 of the actions of BRUCE GARRETT, Nicholas Detweiler suffered severe mental and  
12 physical pain and suffering, loss of enjoyment of life, and ultimately died from his  
13 injuries and lost earning capacity.

14       94. AMTRAK is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of BRUCE  
15 GARRETT pursuant to section 2338 of the California Civil Code, which provides  
16 that a principal is responsible for the negligent and wrongful acts and omissions  
17 committed by its agents in the transaction of the business or to fulfil the obligations  
18 of the principal.

19       95. The conduct of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and BRUCE GARRETT was  
20 malicious, wanton, oppressive, and accomplished with a conscious disregard for the  
21 rights of Nicholas Detweiler, entitling Plaintiff, individually and as successor-in-  
22 interest to Nicholas Detweiler, to an award of exemplary and punitive damages.

23       96. As a direct and proximate result of the wrongful death of Nicholas  
24 Detweiler, Plaintiff suffered the loss of love, companionship, comfort, care,  
25 assistance, protection, affection, society, moral support, and guidance of Nicholas  
26 Detweiler, and will continue to be so deprived for the remainder of her natural life.  
27 Accordingly, Defendants are liable to Plaintiff for compensatory damages.

28       97. Plaintiff JULIA DETWEILER brings this claim individually and as

1 successor-in-interest to Nicholas Detweiler and seeks both survival damages,  
2 including for Nicholas Detweiler's pre-death pain and suffering, and wrongful death  
3 damages under this claim. Plaintiff is also claiming funeral and burial expenses.

4 **SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

5 **Negligence (Cal. Govt. Code § 820 and California Common Law) (Wrongful  
6 Death and Survival)**

7 (Plaintiff against all Defendants)

8 98. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing  
9 paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth  
10 herein.

11 99. The actions and inactions of the Defendants were negligent, including  
12 but not limited to:

- 13 a. CITY's failure to properly and adequately train CITY police  
14 officers, including JEREMIAH CAPURRO, including with regard  
15 to the use of force, including deadly force, and with regard to  
16 dealing with members of the public who may be mentally ill;
- 17 b. AMTRAK's failure to properly and adequately train AMTRAK  
18 employees, including BRUCE GARRETT, including with regard  
19 to situations involving police officers on AMTRAK trains, with  
20 regard to addressing disturbances on trains and involving  
21 passengers, and with regard to the use of physical restraint and  
22 other force against passengers;
- 23 c. The failure to properly and adequately assess the need to detain,  
24 arrest, and use force, including deadly force, against Nicholas  
25 Detweiler;
- 26 d. The negligent tactics and handling of the situation with Nicholas  
27 Detweiler, including pre-shooting negligence;
- 28 e. The negligent detention, arrest, and use of force, including deadly

force, against Nicholas Detweiler;

- f. The failure to timely provide, summon, and/or allow the provision of medical care to Nicholas Detweiler;
- g. The failure to give a verbal warning or appropriate commands prior to using force, including deadly force; and
- h. The failure to properly train and supervise employees, including JEREMIAH CAPURRO, DOE OFFICERS, and BRUCE GARRETT.

9        100. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct as alleged  
10 above, and other undiscovered negligent conduct, Nicholas Detweiler suffered  
11 extreme mental and physical pain and suffering and ultimately died and lost earning  
12 capacity. Also, as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct as alleged  
13 above, Plaintiff has suffered emotionally and has been deprived of the life-long love,  
14 companionship, comfort, support, society, care, and sustenance of Nicholas  
15 Detweiler, and will continue to be so deprived for the remainder of her natural life.

16        101. CITY is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of JEREMIAH  
17 CAPURRO pursuant to section 815.2(a) of the California Government Code, which  
18 provides that a public entity is liable for the injuries caused by its employees within  
19 the scope of the employment if the employee's act would subject him or her to  
20 liability.

21        102. AMTRAK is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of BRUCE  
22 GARRETT pursuant to section 2338 of the California Civil Code, which provides  
23 that a principal is responsible for the negligent and wrongful acts and omissions  
24 committed by its agents in the transaction of the business or to fulfil the obligations  
25 of the principal.

26       103. Plaintiff JULIA DETWEILER brings this claim individually and as  
27 successor-in-interest to Nicholas Detweiler and seeks both survival damages,  
28 including for Nicholas Detweiler's pre-death pain and suffering, and wrongful death

1 damages under this claim. Plaintiff is also claiming funeral and burial expenses.

2                   **EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

3                   **Violation of Bane Act (Cal. Civil Code § 52.1)**

4 (Plaintiff against Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO, DOES 1-10, and CITY OF  
5 MOUNT SHASTA)

6       104. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in the foregoing  
7 paragraphs of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth  
8 herein.

9       105. California Civil Code, Section 52.1 (the Bane Act), prohibits any person  
10 from interfering with another person's exercise or enjoyment of his or her  
11 constitutional rights by threats, intimidation, or coercion (including by the use of  
12 unconstitutionally excessive force).

13      106. Any individual whose exercise or enjoyment of rights secured by the  
14 Constitution or laws of this state has been interfered with, within the meaning of  
15 Section 52.1, may institute and prosecute in his or her name and on his or her own  
16 behalf a civil action for damages and other appropriate equitable relief to protect the  
17 peaceable exercise or enjoyment of the rights at issue.

18      107. The Bane Act, the California Constitution and California common law  
19 prohibit unlawful detention and arrest and the use of excessive force by law  
20 enforcement. The Bane Act authorizes a private right of action and permits survival  
21 actions for such claims.

22      108. Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10 violated Nicholas  
23 Detweiler's constitutional, statutory, and common law rights by using excessive  
24 force, where these Defendants' acts of unreasonable force were done intentionally  
25 and with a reckless disregard for Nicholas Detweiler's rights and for his life.

26      109. Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO's use of deadly force was excessive  
27 and unreasonable under the circumstances. Further, the involved officers did not give  
28 a verbal warning or adequate commands prior to fatally shooting Nicholas Detweiler,

1 despite being feasible to do so. Defendants' actions thus deprived Nicholas Detweiler  
2 of his right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures under the United  
3 States and California constitutions and other California law. The conduct of  
4 Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO was a substantial factor in causing the harm,  
5 losses, injuries, and damages to Nicholas Detweiler and Plaintiff.

6       110. Defendant JEREMIAH CAPURRO intentionally violated Nicholas  
7 Detweiler's constitutional rights by using excessive deadly force against him,  
8 including but not limited to fatally shooting him without warning. Further, these  
9 intentional acts by JEREMIAH CAPURRO show that he acted with a reckless  
10 disregard for Nicholas Detweiler's constitutional rights, thereby demonstrating his  
11 intent to violate those rights.

12       111. At the time of the shooting, Nicholas Detweiler did not pose an  
13 immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury and Nicholas Detweiler had not  
14 verbally threatened anyone in the leadup to the shooting. There is direct and  
15 circumstantial evidence that JEREMIAH CAPURRO intentionally violated Nicholas  
16 Detweiler's rights by unlawfully detaining him, by unlawfully arresting him, and by  
17 fatally shooting him.

18       112. Defendants JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10, while working as  
19 police officers for the CITY, and acting within the course and scope of his duties,  
20 interfered with or attempted to interfere with the rights of Nicholas Detweiler to be  
21 free from unreasonable searches and seizures, to equal protection of the laws, and to  
22 be free from state actions that shock the conscience, by threatening or committing  
23 acts involving violence, threats, coercion, or intimidation.

24       113. Nicholas Detweiler was caused to suffer extreme mental and physical  
25 pain and suffering and ultimately died and lost earning capacity. Plaintiff has also  
26 been deprived of the life-long love, companionship, comfort, support, society, care,  
27 and sustenance of Nicholas Detweiler, and will continue to be so deprived for the  
28 remainder of her natural life.

1       114. The conduct of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10 was a  
2 substantial factor in causing the harm, losses, injuries and damages of Nicholas  
3 Detweiler and Plaintiff.

4       115. Defendant CITY is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of  
5 JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10 pursuant to section 815.2(a) of the  
6 California Government Code, which provides that a public entity is liable for the  
7 injuries caused by its employees within the scope of the employment if the  
8 employee's act would subject him or her to liability.

9       116. The conduct of JEREMIAH CAPURRO and DOES 1-10 was malicious,  
10 wanton, oppressive, and accomplished with a conscious disregard for the rights of  
11 Nicholas Detweiler, entitling Plaintiff to an award of exemplary and punitive  
12 damages as against these Defendants.

13       117. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and as successor-in-interest to  
14 Nicholas Detweiler and seeks survival damages, including for Nicholas Detweiler's  
15 pre-death pain and suffering, and wrongful death damages under this claim. Plaintiff  
16 also claims funeral and burial expenses.

17       118. Plaintiff also seeks costs and attorney fees under this claim.

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## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff JULIA DETWEILER requests entry of judgment in their favor and against Defendants CITY OF MOUNT SHASTA, JEREMIAH CAPURRO, NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION, BRUCE GARRETT, and DOES 1-10, inclusive, as follows:

- A. For compensatory damages, including both survival and wrongful death damages under federal and state law, in the amount to be proven at trial;
  - B. For other general damages in an amount according to proof at trial;
  - C. For other non-economic damages in an amount according to proof at trial;
  - D. For funeral and burial expenses;
  - E. For other special damages in an amount according to proof at trial;
  - F. For punitive damages against the individual defendants in an amount to be proven at trial;
  - G. Attorney's fees and costs pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988;
  - H. Attorney's fees and costs pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 52.1(h)
  - I. For interest;
  - J. For reasonable costs of this suit; and
  - K. For such further other relief as the Court may deem just, proper, and appropriate.

22 | DATED: November 7, 2024

## LAW OFFICES OF DALE K. GALIPO

By: /s/ Dale K. Galipo  
DALE K. GALIPO  
BENJAMIN S. LEVINE  
Attorneys for Plaintiff

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

The Plaintiff named herein hereby demands a trial by jury.

DATED: November 7, 2024

## LAW OFFICES OF DALE K. GALIPO

By: /s/ Dale K. Galipo

DALE K. GALIPO  
BENJAMIN S. LEVINE  
Attorneys for Plaintiff